By the King.

A PROCLAMATION

For the careful Cuſtody and well Ordering of the New River brought from *Chadwell* and *Amwell* to the North parts of the City of *London*.

JAMES R.

WHereas by Authority of two ſeveral Acts of Parliament made and Ordained in the Third and fourth years of the Reign of Our late Royal Grandfather King James (of bleſſed memory) the River now running from Chadwell and Amwell, in Our County of Hertford, to the North parts of Our City of London, was at the great charge of Our ſaid Grandfather, and other the Undertakers happily made and finiſhed, ſince which time the Water thereof is diſperſed by Pipes and Branches through the ſeveral Streets and Places of our ſaid City, the Liberties and Suburbs of the ſame, and elſewhere, to the benefit and eaſe of Our Subjects there inhabiting, as well for the cleaning and ſweet keeping of them in the times of Infection, as the preſervation and ſafety of the Houſes and Buildings, Goods and Riches therein, from the fearful danger of fire caſually happening; And ſuch was the care and providence of Our ſaid Grandfather, that the Water in any place in the courſe thereof ſhould not at any time be troubled or corrupted (whereby the health or lives of the people might ſuffer or be endangered) that by his Letters Patents of Incorporation dated the One and twentieth day of June, in the Seventeenth year of his Reign over this Our Realm of England, he created and erected a Governour and Company, ſucceſſively to Regulate, and carefully to Overſee all things appertaining to the ſaid River; and ſeveral ſtrict Orders and Commands were made and given by Our late Royal Father (of bleſſed memory) for preſervation of the ſaid River, and preventing of ſuch things as might be prejudicial thereunto; Notwithſtanding which, the preſent Governour and Company have repreſented unto Us, That great abuſes are daily committed: We therefore taking into Our Princely conſideration, That the preſervation of the ſaid River is of great and ſpecial conſequence, are Graciouſly pleaſed by this Our Royal Proclamation (with the advice of Our Privy Council) ſtraitly to Charge and Command, That all and every the Grants, Clauſes and Reſtrictions in the ſaid Acts of Parliament, Letters Patents, and in all other Our Letters Patents, Orders and Proclamations concerning the ſaid River Enacted, Made, Eſtabliſhed, Granted or Confirmed, be from time to time carefully obeyed, obſerved, and performed; And We do hereby ſtrictly prohibit and forbid all and ſingular the Inhabitants of Our City of London, the Suburbs and Liberties thereof, Our City of Weſtminſter, and alſo the Inhabitants of Our ſeveral Counties of Middleſex and Hertford, and likewiſe all the Plummers, Paviers, and other Artificers whomſoever, and every of them, That they nor any of them, do or ſhall preſume at any time or times hereafter, without the privity, permiſſion and allowance of the Governour and Company aforeſaid for the time being, to intermeddle with the ſaid Works, or any of the Pipes or Branches thereof, or to convey or derive any Pipe or Branch, Pipes or Branches of the ſaid Water into their, or any of their Houſes, or other places, nor ſhall fetch or carry the Water out of the ſaid River, the Pipes or Branches thereof, or otherwiſe hinder, waſte or conſume, diſturb, infect, abuſe or corrupt the ſame River, by ſetting up of Grates, overflowing of Grounds, making of Trenches or Drains, filling of Ponds, Fiſhing, Watering of Cattel, keeping of Geeſe or Ducks thereupon, caſting of Carrion thereinto, or by doing or permitting any miſuſance, annoyance, let, ſtoppage, or prejudice whatſoever to the ſtream of Our ſaid River in any part of the Currant thereof, nor ſhall cut, ſpoil, take away or deſtroy any the Branches, Bridges, Wharfs, Poſts, Rails, Banks, Mounds or Fences to the ſaid River in any Wiſe belonging or appertaining, or therewith enjoyed, or lying near, or behoful to the ſame; And that the ſaid Governour and Company, their Officers and Servants ſhall have free Liberty in the day-time, in the preſence of a Conſtable, to Search any Houſe, Yard, or Back-ſide where they ſhall ſuſpect any Branch or Branches are laid contrary to their knowledge, upon pain of Our high diſpleaſure, and of ſuch pains, penalties and puniſhments, as by the Laws and Statutes of this Kingdom, or Our Prerogative-Royal can and may be inflicted upon the Offenders for contempt of Our Royal Will and Pleaſure herein declared: And We do hereby ſtraitly Charge and Command all Mayors, Juſtices of Peace, Commiſſioners of Sewers, Sheriffs, Bayliffs, Conſtables, Headboroughs, and all other Our Officers, and Miniſters and Subjects within Our ſaid Cities of London and Weſtminſter, the Suburbs and Liberties thereof, Our Counties of Middleſex and Hertford, whom the ſame ſhall or may concern, That they and every of them hereafter be vigilant and circumſpect, that Our Royal Will and Pleaſure herein declared be from time to time effectually obſerved; And that they and every of them in their ſeveral Offices and Places reſpectively, Without excuſe or delay, be upon all occaſions aiding and aſſiſting to the ſaid Governour and Company, their Officers and Miniſters, in the ſtrict obſervance and execution of all and ſingular the Powers and Authorities, Limitations and Reſtraints herein before mentioned, and in the Grants and Prohibitions aforeſaid contained, according to the true intent and meaning of theſe preſents, when they ſhall be thereunto required by them or any of them, as they and every of them tender Our Pleaſure, and will avoid the contrary at their perils.

Given at Our Court at *Whitehall* the Fifth day of *March* 168⅝. In the Second year of Our Reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

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